Center for Modern Greek Studies
San Francisco State University

Μαντατοφόρος*

ΕΔΡΑ ΝΙΚΟΥ ΚΑΖΑΝΤΖΑΚΗ

The Nikos Kazantzakis Chair

Modern Greek Studies Foundation

Winter 1996 *MANDATOPHOROS: Bearer of news, messenger Vol. 12, No. 1

Professor George Daskarolis Receives HAPS AXION Award

Congratulations to new MGSF Board Member **Dr. George P. Daskarolis** for being selected as the recipient of the 1996 **HAPS AXION Award,** recognizing scholarly achievement and contributions to the Greek American Community of Northern California. At the Awards Luncheon Dr. Daskarolis spoke about the historical and cultural implications of the

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HAPS President Anna Konstantopoulos (left), with Dr. Daskarolis, and his wife Elizabeth.

George Marcus Donates $10,000 to Kazantzakis Chair

At the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the **Modern Greek Studies Foundation, Mr. George M. Marcus** presented a check for $10,000 **for the Kazantzakis Chair Endowment at the Center for Modern Greek Studies, S.F.S.U.** Mr. Marcus made his donation in memory of his mother, **Maria Moutsanas** in the hope that "...her passion for all things Greek will live on in the programs and activities of the Modern Greek Studies Foundation." Both the Center and the Foundation are deeply appreciative of this generous gift.

Pancretan Association of America to Underwrite Course at SFSU

The **PanCretan Association of America** was formed in 1929, making history in the Greek American immigrant community as the nation's first Greek national federation. Others soon followed. Sixty-seven years later the PanCretan Association of America (PAA) is once again making history as it has announced that it will underwrite a course at **San Francisco State University,** to honor one of the greatest children of **Crete—Nikos Kazantzakis,** which will be given during the 1996-97 academic year. The course will hopefully be part of the permanent program at the **Center for Modern Greek Studies** at the University.

The course, "**The PanCretan Association of America course in Cretan Culture and Traditions",** will be designed by the Center and **Dr. Mary Coros (Kouromihelakis)**, an eminent specialist on dance and on Greek/Cretan folk culture. Dr. Coros will also be the instructor of the course, as a special visiting professor to the Kazantzakis Chair. The primary focus is expected to be the rich cultural traditions of the island of Crete, including literature, music, dancing and lifestyle—presented in the context of the wider Greek culture. Although this will be the pilot course, the association hopes it will become a permanent addition to the university's curriculum.

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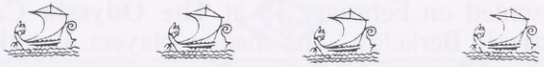
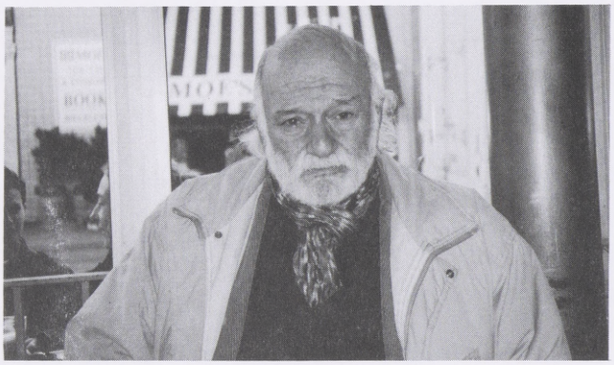
Odyssey To Greece And Turkey May 12-27, 1996



The tour of Greece and Turkey led by **Prof. Thanasis Maskaleris** now has 18 participants. The upper limit is 22. If you are interested in going on this exciting tour, please call Prof. Maskaleris at (415) 338-1892.

Prof. Daskarolis continued, from page 1

controversial **Black Athena** by **Martin Bernal**. Earlier this year Dr. Daskarolis' own book **San Francisco's Greek Colony** was published, focusing on the early history of the S.F. Bay Area Greek immigrants and later Greek Americans. The book was in part funded by an MGSF grant. To order copies by mail send your checks, made out to George Daskarolis, to 21 Knoll Ridge Way, Oakland, CA 94611. The cost of the book, including postage and handling, is $13.00.



Poet Nanos Valaoritis

Nanos Valaoritis Receives Poetry Award

Nanos Valaoritis, a leading contemporary Greek poet and Professor Emeritus of Creative Writing and Comparative Literature of SFSU, has received the **National Poetry Association**'s 1996 award for "distinguished service to poets and poetry." The award ceremony, co-sponsored by the **Center for Modern Greek Studies**, took place at Fort Mason, March 2, 1996 and included a reading of Prof. Valaoritis' poetry before a large audience. According to **Lawrence Durrell,** "Valaoritis is one of the most distinguished and enigmatic of modern Greek poets...his originality of temperament is a most singular thing." The Center extends its warmest congratulations to Nanos Valaoritis!

Greek Shadow Theater in Berkeley

A double performance of Greek Shadow Theater (**Karagiozis**) in English and in Greek was presented on February 19 at **The Odyssia Caffè Bistro** in Berkeley. The shadow players, **Leonidas Kassapides** and **Christina Navratilova** are from the **PARANOIX Poor Puppet Theater Company**.

The event was sponsored by the Center for Modern Greek Studies.

PanCretan Course continued, from page 1

Mr. George Chryssis, President of the PanCretan Association of America hailed the decision of his board as "historic" and "exemplary", adding that he hopes other Hellenic societies in America will sponsor similar courses on Greek culture and history at other American colleges and universities.

Mr. Chryssis added that "This is a historic moment for our association—to attempt to project our culture and traditions to our fellow Greek-Americans, but also to the broader American society...Education is the most effective vehicle to make people aware of our past, and in effect create a closer link to our ***patrida,*** our homeland of Greece."

Euripides' *The Bacchae* —Staged by George Marchi

George Marchi who in the past directed plays sponsored by the Center for Modern Greek Studies is now rehearsing **Euripides'** tragedy, ***The Bacchae,*** for the **University of San Francisco Classical Theatre Co.**, a university/community program. There are creative opportunities for those interested in participating. The cast is complete, but you are welcome to lend a hand in technical support and backstage crews. There is an urgent need for a drummer to accompany the chorus of the Bacchants' dance and vocal performance.

Opening night of the play is Thursday April 18, 1996, to continue in the following two weekends. To volunteer your services or for more information call Mr. Marchi at (415) 753-3652.

Greek Author Visits the S.F. Bay Area

Maria Lambadaridou-Pothou, Greek poet, novelist and playwright, visited the Bay Area in early February as writer-in-residence with the **Theater and Dance Department of California State University, Hayward**. Her play **Antigone or The Nostalgia of Tragedy** was staged at the University Theater and presented, in its U.S. premiere, in English translation. Ms. Lambadaridou-Pothou also participated in a panel discussion on the tragedy of **Antigone** and read her poems (on the UC Berkeley Campus) at a poetry reading, entitled "**Greek Poetry Through the Ages**", co-sponsored by the **Center for Modern Greek Studies**.

Ms. Lambadaridou-Pothou presented to the Center the works she has authored in Greek, to be part of the Center's Modern Greek Collection.

Ancient Greek Theater Performance

On February 11, at the Durham Studio Theater on the UC Berkeley campus, the eminent Greek-Cypriot actor/director **Photos Photiades** gave a stunning performance of Ancient Greek Theater. He acted out excerpts from several ancient plays, including ***Antigone, Oedipus Rex, Agamemnon, The Persians*** and ***The Bacchae***. The pieces were done in Classical Greek with recitations in English translation by **Professor Andonia Cakouros of Sacramento State University** and director/actor **George Marchi**. The event was co-sponsored by: the **Center for Modern Greek Studies, SFSU, The Center for Theater Arts, UC-Berkeley, The Modern Greek Program at UC-Berkeley,** and **The Department of Theater and Dance at California State University, Hayward.**

Recent Contributors to the Modern Greek Studies Foundation

Mr. and Mrs. George M. Marcus
* * *
Mr. Dean J. Meniktas
* * *
Daughters of Penelope, EOS Chapter, #1
* * *
Pancretan Association of America
* * *
Dr. Nicholas L. Petrakis
* * *
Judge Demetrios Agretelis
Lilica Anderson * Constance Aretos
Despina Aslanoglu * John Bardis
George G. Benetatos * Kati Casida
Nick C. Chiotras * Dr. George P. Daskarolis
Maria Demakas * Christina Duvaras
Effie Georgiades * Dr. Peter D. Haikalis
George Konstantopoulos
Peter C. Lagarias * Virginia Lagiss
Chrysanthy Leones
Victor G. Makras * Irene Margelos
Koula & R. H. McCormick
Virginia I. Papan
Rev. & Presvytera Thomas Paris
John Polyzos * John N. Scourkes
Dr/M Theodore N. Scourkes
Katerina A. & Timothy Steck
Angel Stoyanof * John Thodos
George Vigileos
Dan Ziagos

Annual MGSF Board Meeting

More than 40 people attended the annual **Modern Greek Studies Foundation** Board of Directors meeting on January 22 at **Stoyanof's Restaurant** in S.F. The election of officers for 1996 was held and the following individuals were chosen to lead the Foundation this year: **Patricia Aleck, Connie Aretos, Anastasia Condas, Dr. Peter Haikalis, Titika Koplos, Virginia Lagiss, Cleo Lekas, George M. Marcus, Sen. Nicholas C. Petris, Dr. John Siambis, Mary Thodos** and **Athena Vutiritsas**.

New board members elected to a 3 year term are: **Dimitri A. Charalambous, Dr. John Chokatos, Dr. George P. Daskarolis, Maria Demakas, Irene Margelos, Virginia I. Papan and John Thodos.**

Continuing board members are: **Judge Demetrios Agretelis, Lilica Anderson, John Bardis, George G. Benetatos, Christina Duvaras, Dr. George P. Katsoulis, Peter C. Lagarias, Chrysanthy Leones, Victor G. Makras, Dr. Nicholas L. Petrakis, John Polyzos, Angel Stoyanof, David Hicks** as the Legal Counsel and **Prof. Thanasis Maskaleris** as Liaison for the Center for Modern Greek Studies, S.F.S.U.

Highlights of the meeting included the presentation of a check for $10,000 from the MGSF to **Robert Woods**, Director of University Development at S.F.S.U., for the Kazantzakis Chair Endowment and the presentation of a gift by MGSF Chairman **George M. Marcus** of an additional $10,000 to the Endowment in memory of his late mother **Maria Moutsanas**. These two contributions bring the Endowment total to $390,000—the Foundation's goal is $500,000.

In reviewing the events of the previous year 1st V.P. **Dr. Peter Haikalis** thanked the Board Members for their annual donations which makes it possible for the MGSF to underwrite courses and sponsor activities including the Founders' Greek Language course taught annually at SFSU, a grant to help cover publication costs of the Daskarolis book, funding towards microfilming the last 20 years of the **Hellenic Journal**—a joint project with the **S.B. Vryonis Center** in Sacramento, a 5 year commitment to supplement the book budget of the SFSU Library by $500 each year, and partial funding of the Center's administrative assistant's salary. Other projects and cultural programs for 1996 were also discussed. More details in future issues of **Mandatophoros**.

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Fall 1996 Courses

GRE 250 Beginning Modern Greek I
Instructor: (New Faculty) HUM 381
Tuesdays & Thursdays 12:35-1:50 P.M.

GRE 365 Intermediate Modern Greek III
Instructor: Effie Kalafatis
Thursdays 4:10-6:55 P.M.

WCL 445 Modern Greek Literature
Instructor: (New faculty)
Wednesdays 6-8:45 P.M.

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Classes for the Fall semester begin **Wednesday August 28, 1996**. Members from the community are encouraged to attend the above courses. For additional information, call the Center for Modern Greek Studies at (415) 338-1892.

Greek Independence Day

The United Hellenic American Societies of N. California will present a cultural program to celebrate the anniversary of the Greek War of Independence — 1821. Greek dancing to live music will follow the presentation.
March 24, 1996—2-9 P.M. — Nob Hill Masonic Center, S.F. — $15 general; under 12, free.
For information call: Dina Kourumalos: 415-755-6444, or Titika Koplos: 510-339-2947.

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MGSF Art Show in September

During the weekend of September 27, 28 and 29, the **Modern Greek Studies Foundation** will sponsor an **Exhibition and Sale of Paintings by Bay Area Artists of Hellenic Ancestry** at the Fort Mason Foundation Center, S.F. The art show and sale will be the second of its kind which the MGSF plans to sponsor annually or bi-annually. More details in future issues of **Mandatophoros.**

Join us today - your support would be greatly appreciated!

○ I would like more information about the Modern Greek Studies Foundation and the Center for Modern Greek Studies. Please add my name to your mailing list.

○ Yes--I want to help: enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution in the amount of $_____

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